
TO: Commanding General, 39th Infantry Division, APO 33, U.S. Army.

1. In compliance with verbal instructions, the following report on the operations of the Division for the period 1-31 January 1945 is submitted.

2. The following units were attached to the Division during the period:

- 820 (Detached 2 Jan)
- 230th Inf Regt
- 820th FA En (105 How)
- Co B, 440th AAA En (44)
- Co B, 750th Tk Bn
- 1st Plt, Co B, 275th Engr Bn
- Co B, 275th Medic Bn
- 771st Tk Bn
- 772d TD En (C) (Detached 1 Jan)
- 112d AAA En (44)
- 823d TD En (SP) (Attached 1 Jan; Detached 30 Jan)
- Co C, 87th Cal En (Detached 25 Jan)
- Co B, 87th Cal En (Attached 2 Jan; Detached 25 Jan)

a. Supporting Troops:

- 210th Engr En (1 Jan only)
- 211th Engr (C) En (From 2 Jan to 5 Jan)
- 16th Engr (C) En (From 8 Jan to 9 Jan; and from 11 Jan to 20 Jan)
- 237th Engr (C) En (From 10 Jan to 25 Jan)
- 16th FA Co (From 10 Jan to 29 Jan)
- 955th FA En (155 How)
- 155th FA En (155 How)
- 951st FA En (155 Gun) (SP)

b. Dispositions of troops at close of period are shown in Item Number 107, G-3 Journal, 24 January 1945.

3. For daily record of operations, see Enclosure 1 (attached).

Map Ref: FRANCE - 1/50,000. 1063 106-10, Sheets 50, 51, 52, 105.
Operations Memorandum Number 142, Headquarters VII Corps, confirming oral orders issued by the Commanding General, VII Corps, was received on this date (See Item 17, G-3 Journal, 1 January 1945). This memorandum ordered the Division to assume responsibility of the 3rd Armored Division sector at 1200, 31 December 1944, continue the defense, and maintain contact with the 75th Infantry Division on the left.

The 83d Division on the first day of January had assumed the responsibility of the 3rd Armored Division sector at 1200, 31 December, and was continuing the defense of the sector. The following units were attached to the Division: Regimental Combat Team 290 (75th Infantry Division), 774th Tank Battalion, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Self-propelled), 453d Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion (AW), and Company C, 87th Chemical Battalion.

Regimental Combat Team 290 having been attached 1200, 31 December, to the Division, held positions, strengthened defenses, and sent patrols to the South.

The 329th Infantry moved from vicinity of (F4000) and closed into assembly area vicinity BAGUOULI (K50025) at 1000.

Regimental Combat Team 330 remained in VII Corps reserve until 1100 at which time the combat team was attached to the 3rd Armored Division. All attachments which had formed the combat team reverted to control of 83d Division at 1200.

The 331st Infantry remained in defensive positions approximately two thousand yards behind the front lines of the 290th Infantry along the road from BOUTON (P3888) to ERZNE (P4390). The defensive positions were organized with the 3d Battalion on the right, the 2d Battalion in the center, and the 1st Battalion on the left. Defenses were improved during the day by laying mines and tactical wire.

Division Artillery fired over seventy missions during the day. At 0600 the 772d Tank Destroyer Battalion (Towed) passed to control of the XVIII Corps. The 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion (Self-propelled) was attached to the Division at the same time.

The 774th Tank Battalion moved into a new position vicinity PETIT-HUN (P3695). Company C of the 308th Engineer Battalion assisted in the laying and recording of minefields in the 331st Infantry sector; the Battalion in Division Reserve conducted roads and devoted time to maintenance of equipment and general rehabilitation.

The reinforcements which were received on 28 and 29 December reached the squad of the 329th and 330th Infantry and thereby increasing the combat efficiency of the Division.

As a result of operations, the Division maintained the defense of its zone and made plans for moving the Division into the zone of the 75th Infantry Division in preparation for a coordinated attack to be launched by the VII Corps.

At 2300 the Division issued a Fragmentary Order coordinating the movement of the Division into the assembly areas M475975, K540050, K585050, and K600000.

2 January 1945

The Division received Field Order Number 11, Headquarters, VII Corps, 2 January (See Item 90, G-3 Journal, 2 January 1945) ordering the Division to attack 0530, 3 January, in close support of and following the 3d Armored Division and to eliminate all pockets of resistance within its zone of action. The Division on this date continued to move to the assembly areas as designated by Fragmentary Order issued on 1 January.
Regimental Combat Team 290 (75th Infantry Division) was detached from the Division at 1200.

The 329th Infantry was organized into a regimental Combat Team consisting of 322d Field Artillery Battalion; 321th Field Artillery Battalion; Company D, Platoon of Company D, Reconnaissance Platoon, 774th Tank Battalion; Company C, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled); Company G, 87th Chemical Battalion; Company A, 308th Engineer Battalion; Company A, 308th Medical Battalion; and 439th Quartermaster Truck Company. The Regimental Command Post was located at (K500010) with the Battalions assembled vicinity (P509800), (P530990), and (K595010).

The 330th Infantry, attached to the 3d Armored Division, as of 1100, 1 January, closed its Command Post at HAVELANE (K0323) and opened at FERRIERS (K486002) at 1530.

The 331st Infantry was also organized into a regimental Combat Team consisting of Company B, 777th Tank Battalion; Company G with Reconnaissance Platoon, 629th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled); Company G, 87th Chemical Battalion; Company C, 308th Engineer Battalion; Company G, 308th Medical Battalion; and 3403d Quartermaster Truck Company. Movement of the combat team began at 1100 and by 1900 all elements except Company B, 777th Tank Battalion, had closed into new area (P459960), (P509890), and (P470990). The regimental command post closed (P396923) and opened (P485976) at 1600.

Division Artillery Command Post closed (P396923) and opened (P485976) at 1600.

The 308th Engineer Battalion completed movement of all its units and opened Battalion Command Post at 0930, vicinity (P400015). Work continued on sanding roads throughout the Division sector. The 83d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, in Division Reserve, moved to new location vicinity CHEMAIN (K523007), closing in at 1230.

The Division was relieved of responsibility of its zone by the 8th Infantry Division at 1200, 2 January. Concentration of the combat elements of the Division minus 330th Infantry and 777th Tank Battalion was completed in area (P475975), (K540050), (K530500), and (K560010) at 2100, preparatory to attack on 3 January. Division Command Post closed BARVAUX (P405971) and opened IZIER (K170005) at 1200.

3 January 1945

At 2130, 2 January, the Division issued Field Order Number 43 (See Item 121, G-3 Memorandum, 3 January 1945) ordering 227th and 228th Division orders followed by the 3d Armored Division and to eliminate all pockets of resistance within its zone of action.

The 3d Armored Division began its attack at 0830, 3 January, to seize RESHE (F6185), moving rapidly to the vicinity of VEN (G56767), bypassing enemy resistance to assist in the blocking of roads in the vicinity of CHEMAIN and VAUX, thence attacking South from this location to assist the 2d Armored Division in seizing and securing of HOUFFALIZE. The 3d Armored Division advanced during the day against stubborn resistance and cleared the towns of FLORET (F592932) and MALEPRE (P552889).

G-3, VII Corps, notified the Commanding General at 1431 that it would be necessary for elements of the 83d Infantry Division to relieve the 504th Parachute Infantry (82d Airborne Division) attached to the 75th Infantry Division. The 329th Infantry was ordered by the Commanding General to affect the relief of the 504th Parachute Infantry immediately. Contacts and reconnaissance were made and at 1700 the relief began.
Regimental Combat Team 329 moved its Command Post to (P573960), closing in at 2000. The 2d Battalion began movement at 1630 to new area vicinity (P555918) and the 3d Battalion started at 1700 for vicinity of (P585937); both battalions had detrucked by 2115. At 2200 the 1st and 3d Battalions completed relief of the 3d Battalion and the reserve battalion, 50th Parachute Infantry, along a line extending North-East from (P568923) to (P594943) with the 3d Battalion on the left.

The 330th Infantry continued to be attached to the 3d Armored Division. The Regimental Command Post opened in WERBOMONT (P543000) at 1500, after moving from FERRERS (K186022).

The 331st Regemental Combat Team remained in assembly areas previously occupied while reconnaissance was conducted of area designated for attack and other preparations were made. The Command Post remained at (P483981).

Artillery units fired one hundred and ten missions in the course of the day, mostly interdictory and harassing fires. Due to poor visibility throughout the period, the Division Artillery was not able to register. The 77th Tank Battalion established a Battalion Command Post at IZIER (K775004) and the Battalion, less attachments to the two Regimental Combat Teams, assembled in FERRERS (K186022) closing in at 1800. Company A, with a Platoon of Company D and the Reconnaissance Platoon, all attached to Regimental Combat Team 329, moved into new area vicinity FAYE (P508921), all units closing at 1600. Company B, attached to Regimental Combat Team 331, moved into the 331 area of (P462967) at 1545.

308th Engineer Battalion units conducted road reconnaissance and distributed gravel along roads in Division sector.

1 January 1945

The Division continued to maintain defensive positions and completed relief of elements of the 82d Airborne Division and the 3d Armored Division.

Regimental Combat Team 329 completed relief of the 50th Parachute Infantry (82d Airborne Division) at 0115, when the 2d Battalion, 329th Infantry, took over responsibility for the positions held by the 1st Battalion, 50th Parachute Infantry, along a line from (P554919) to (P570923). At 1800, Company L, 329th Infantry, relieved the 36th Armored Regiment (3d Armored Division) in its positions on Hill at (P604923). Other elements of the 329th Infantry were engaged in strengthening and organizing the positions initially occupied on 3 January. Contact was maintained with the 291st Infantry (75th Infantry Division) on the right and with the 36th Armored Regiment on the left.

The 330th Infantry continued to be attached to the 3d Armored Division.

Regimental Combat Team 331 remained in assembly areas and continued rehabilitation.

Division Artillery's Command Post opened at 1000 vicinity (P531948). Due to snow and very poor visibility during the day no firing was done. Units of the 308th Engineer Battalion supplied sand and gravel along roads in the Division sector. The 77th Tank Battalion and the 83d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop remained in Division Reserve.
Operations Memorandum Number 14, VII Corps, dated 4 January was received (see Item 245, G3 Journal, 5 January 1945) confirming oral instructions for relief of the 504th Parachute Infantry Regiment, which was completed on 4 January. The Operations Memorandum also stated that the Division would complete present mission as set forth in Field Order Number 14, VII Corps, 2 January.

Regimental Combat Team 382 made no contact with the enemy during the day. The 2d Battalion on the right flank of the regimental sector, remained in positions from P553920 to P556920 with Company E on the right, Company G in the center and Company F on the left. Positions from P565925 to P580930 were occupied by the lst Battalion with Company A on the left, Company C on the right and Company B in regimental reserve vicinity of EDA (P575935) Company I, 3d Battalion, occupied a position vicinity P605918. Company K was assembled vicinity P585938 and Company L, vicinity EDA. During the period contact points were maintained with elements of the 82d Airborne Division on the left and with Company G, 81st Infantry on the right.

Regimental Combat Team 331 remained in position in assembly area previously occupied. The 3d Battalion was alerted to relieve Combat Command "R", 3d Armored Division at the crong (P577853) when that point in the advance was reached and preparations were made for reconnaissance and liaison with Combat Command "R".

The artillery was not able to register during the day and a program of harassing and interdiction fire was conducted during the night of 4-5 January. The 908th Field Artillery Battalion moved to new position vicinity P5951 at 1515. Other battalions remained in positions occupied initially on 4 January: 322d Field Artillery Battalion P555941; 323d Field Artillery Battalion P558957; 324th Field Artillery Battalion P524905.

The 83d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop moved to a new position and opened its Command Post at 1030 in EDA (P575935). The 774th Tank Battalion (minus), the 308th Engineer Battalion (minus) and the 83d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop remained in Division Reserve. Engineer companies continued sending roads in the Division sector.

6 January 1945

Both Regimental Combat Teams in the Division remained in positions throughout the day; Regimental Combat Team 382 in defensive positions on the line and Regimental Combat Team 331 in assembly area. The 423d Quartermaster Truck Company was detached from the 382d Infantry (Regimental Combat Team 382) and used by the 75th Infantry Division.

Field Artillery units fired harassing and interdictory missions in support of the operations of the 3d Armored Division, on 83d Division left flank. A number of changes were made in the locations of artillery units. The Division Artillery Command Post moved to P533954, opening at 1530. The 322d Field Artillery Battalion closed in new area at 1000 vicinity P574637; the 323d Field Artillery Battalion closed in new area P566916 at 1015. The Command Post of the 229th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled) moved to P538950, where it opened at 1415.

The 83d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop moved from EDA to a new position (X528010), opening at 1500.

Company A, 308th Engineer Battalion, removed minefields at three points in area occupied by Regimental Combat Team 329. Company B and Company C continued to clear roads and to stockpile gravel. Changes were made in Route C and proper markings and signs posted to indicate the change for all traffic directed by that route.
Rehabilitation of troops and maintenance of equipment continued throughout the Division in all units not actually engaged.

7 January 1945

The Division received Operations Memorandum Number 14b, VII Corps, dated 6 January 1945 (see Item 300, G-3 Journal, 7 January 1945) directing that present mission be continued. It further ordered the 83d Division to prepare to attack through elements of 33d Armored Division on Corps order; to initially seize a bridgehead across RONCE-SAON in vicinity of the town of LANGLIR (Pb462); secure the high ground North and West of Evigny (Pb782); secure a line running from MONT-LEROY (Pb782) to AU TILLET (Pb79) to EVIGNY (Pb782).

Division Field Order Number 44 (see Item 322, G-3 Journal, 7 January 1945) was issued at 1000 ordering the movement and giving the objectives for carrying out the assigned missions. Later in the day the 330th Inf (minus 2d and 3d Battalions) reverted to Division control, and at 2300 an amendment to Field Order Number 44 was issued ordering the 330th Infantry to seize and secure the town of BEMAIN (Pb284). (See Item 418, G-3 Journal, 7 January 1945).

The 339th Infantry remained in position, the companies assembling generally in the vicinity of the Battalion Command Posts. Company X moved to vicinity of HERLOT (Pb192). The Reconnaissance Platoon, 374th Tank Battalion, was detached from the regiment.

The 331st Infantry remained in positions and made no changes in the location of any of the troops.

Artillery units moved during the day and the Division Artillery Command Post opened at 1000 at JUVIGNY (Pb5390). The 323d Field Artillery Battalion closed at 1430 vicinity Pb2293; 323d Field Artillery Battalion vicinity Pb04902 at 1600; 908th Field Artillery Battalion at 1815, vicinity Pb02890; and 324th Field Artillery Battalion vicinity Pb1922, at 2000.

The 53d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop moved to new location in REGINE (Pb185), closing in at 1530. Engineer units of the Division worked on roads throughout the area and swept the area occupied by the 308th Medical Battalion for mines.

3 January 1945

The 339th Infantry moved to new locations, Regimental Command Post opening in LIERE-HEL (Pb1939) at 1520. The 1st Battalion assembled vicinity ERA (Pb5793); the 2d Battalion vicinity Pb2397, closing in at 1000. The 3d Battalion moved into an area vicinity of the following three towns: SART (Pb5374), JOURIEVAL (Pb55583) and VERLAMENT (Pb287), closing in at 1000.

The 330th Infantry (minus 2d and 3d Battalions) moved to LANSIDAL (Pb04903), where the Regimental Command Post opened at 1100. The 1st Battalion moved into the same area, closing in at 1530.

The 331st Infantry moved into the town of LIERE-NW (Pb1891) and opened the Regimental Command Post at 1200. The 2d Battalion moved to vicinity VERLAMENT (Pb287) at 2130 and the 3d Battalion assembled in the vicinity of the Regimental Command Post at 1600.

Field Artillery units were not able to register during the period, because of poor visibility.
The 33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop was attached, in position, to the 330th Infantry. Engineer units were engaged in road maintenance and clearing of snow from the supply routes.

The Division Command Post moved from IZIER (K47000) and opened at 1315 in the town of JENIGNE (P597893). All elements of the Division made preparations for the coming attack on the morning of 9 January.

9 January 1945.

The 3d Battalion, 329th Infantry was the first unit of the Division to attack, crossing the Line of Departure at 1130, and advancing to hold positions along a line P653843 to P653842 to P653844 to P663845 to P663842 to P663842. After detracking at 3GRT (P65347), the 2d Battalion, 329th Infantry moved out across their Line of Departure at 1215, advancing in the face of enemy small arms and machine gun fire to a line P674843 to P674843 to P673842. The 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry, after moving during the morning from previous location, closed into an assembly area at 1300 in the vicinity of P638390 and remained in Division Reserve at that point.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry (33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop attached), moved by motor to ROYNE (P658358), where troops detracked and proceeded on foot to an assembly area vicinity of LIEHONNE (P653358), closing in at 0800. From that point Company E moved south toward the quarries (P653847), where contact was made with the enemy at 0855. The Company advanced to hold positions along a line P653849 to P654847 to P653848 and were ordered to remain there. At 1140 the remaining units of the 1st Battalion launched an attack toward the Southeast, with Company C leading. Progress was made against heavy small arms fire and light mortar and artillery fire, and a line was established running through positions at P658339 to P658339, including the town of LIEHONNE (P653840), which was entered.

The 2d Battalion, 331st Infantry launched an attack at 1330 after a short delay due to unfavorable weather and traffic conditions. Progress was made against strong resistance from enemy tanks and direct fire from anti-aircraft guns, and a line was established from P653842 to P653843. The 3d Battalion remained in reserve area vicinity of OTTE (P654851), and the 1st Battalion, in Division Reserve, closed into LIEHONNE (P653890) at 1325.

Division Artillery was able to register at 1115 for the first time since moving into the present area, and fired more than eighty missions during the period, chiefly interdiction and harassing fire.

In addition to continued work on roads and road clearance, which all units of the 303d Engineer Battalion were engaged in. Company A in support of the 329th Infantry, made preparations for building a bridge across the RAV DE LANLIL at P653834.

10 January 1945

The Division continued its attack to the South against very strong opposition at many points.

The 3d Battalion, 329th Infantry attacked at 0830, advancing in the face of heavy artillery fire and tank action. The battalion advanced to the line P653844-P654843-P653840. The 2d Battalion, 329th Infantry attacked in column of companies with Company E leading, at 0800. Enemy tank and artillery resistance was very heavy. At 1115 Company E crossed the DONZE River and attacked East to reduce the enemy strong point at P654835 and to capture the town of PETITE LANLIL. At the end of the day a line was secured as follows:
The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry, with the 3rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop attached, moved out after daylight and Company B was given the mission of clearing the woods at F635-347. This was accomplished by 1030 at which time the Company assembled and took up positions in vicinity F635-48. Later Companies A and B began clearing the town of BIEHAIN (P624839). The town was cleared at 1830. With the battalion fighting from house to house, in the face of heavy machine gun cross fire from the woods south of the town, as well as small arms and mortar fire coming from enemy within the town, The Regimental Command Post of the 330th Infantry opened at 1800 at HENONVAL (P631360).

Advancing against small arms, mortar and heavy artillery fire and tank action, the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked to the South at 1700. An enemy counterattack was stopped at 1230, after which the battalion advanced to hold a line from P639840 to P645845. Also at 1700 the 3rd Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked to the South, meeting small arms fire and opposition from tanks and heavy artillery. An enemy strong point at P645845 held up the attack, whereupon a coordinated tank and infantry attack was organized to reduce it. Tanks attacked down the road from the Northwest and Company L took up a position flanking the enemy from the Northeast. One enemy tank and two of our own were knocked out during this fight. The battalion held positions along a line P647844-P650843-P653844 at the close of the period.

Division Artillery, using all organic and supporting battalions from the 3rd Armored Division, fired 150 TOWs during the day on targets designated by the advancing infantry units, thirteen battalions of artillery firing at one time. Extensive harrowing and interdictory fire was maintained during the hours of darkness. The total number of missions fired was two hundred.

Units of the 774th Tank Battalion, operating with the regiments, assisted in reducing enemy strong points and neutralizing enemy armor. The 306th Engineers continued work on roads, in addition to mine sweeping in the forward areas. Company A, with the 329th Infantry, improvised a foot crossing of the BONSE River at P670834. Company B assisted Division Artillery personnel in clearing a field of snow and sweeping it for mines, preparatory to its use as an airfield.

During the day a total of 40 prisoners were taken.

11 January 1945

During daylight hours small advances were made against strong enemy opposition. The enemy launched a strong counterattack at BIEHAIN (P624839) early in the day. This threat was repelled primarily by artillery fire and positions were maintained. Coordinated attacks at 2200 and 0130, 12 January were launched by the Division. These attacks were progressing successfully during the night 11-12 January.

Moving South from GRANDSART (P657477), the 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry reached forward positions at 0800. At 1130 the BONCHE River was crossed and the advance continued South and East to block the enemy along a line P670845-P670830-P664823. The attack of the 2nd Battalion, 329th Infantry was launched at 0930 against strong opposition from enemy tanks, artillery and small arms fire. The condition of the ground, which was covered with deep, drifted snow, slowed progress to some extent, and the battalion held its positions preparatory to making a coordinated night attack. This attack was launched at 2200, the 2nd Battalion jumping off from a line P660837-P660835-P653834-P654829-P654826 with the mission
of taking LANGILIR (P65327) from the East. By 1200 the Battalion had reached a line in the town from P65323 to P65327 and were still fighting on the edge of town. An attack made by Company I, 3d Battalion, 339th Infantry at 0900, heading South from positions previously held, was stopped by enemy tank fire in the vicinity of PETITE LAMILLIR (F65337). At 2200 the battalion again attacked to the South, in coordination with other elements of the Division, jumping off from a line P64345-P64345-P65345 to take PETITE LAMILLIR.

The 330th Infantry (minus 2d and 3d Battalions) passed from Division control at 0800, operating entirely under control of the 3d Armored Division. The Divisional units attached to the regiment reverted to Division control at the same time.

The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry moved out at 0700 to assemble in forward area North of EBON (F62433), preparatory to attack on LANGILIR (F651827). At 1015 the attack jumped off and after considerable heavy fighting secured a line running along the edge of woods P63735-P64335-P64335. The Division launched a coordinated attack at 2200 with the 1st Battalion attacking Southeast to capture LANGILIR (F65327). The 3d Battalion, 331st Infantry attacked at 0730 from the line P63845-P63845. At 1815 Company D attacked through woods P63543 to clear out enemy in that sector. At 0900 the enemy made a determined counterattack with five tanks and supporting infantry to recover EBON. This effort was decisively repulsed after three enemy tanks were knocked out and the other two withdrew, and the battalion moved on to complete its mission and block along a line P63735-P63745. This line was reached at 1100. At 1200 the battalion joined the road junction at P63740 and continued to attack South. Later the battalion took up blocking positions along a line from the road junction Northwest to the LANGILIR River at P63827. On strong point at P64345 delayed the attack of the 3d Battalion, 331st Infantry until the artillery was able to reduce it in the afternoon. Later in the day the battalion formed a line P64345-P64345-P64345, from which it jumped off in a coordinated attack at 2200, advancing to the edge of PETITE LAMILLIR (F65335-P65335) by the end of the period at 2400. The 3d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop was attached to the 331st Infantry.

Two hundred and twenty-seven missions were fired by Divisional and other artillery units during the day. Fifty 105s were fired, using at one time sixteen battalions, firing 105mm guns, 155mm howitzers, 155mm guns and 203mm howitzers. Field artillery battalions of the 3d Armored Division artillery, 15th Field Artillery Group and 7th Corps artillery supported the 3d Division artillery in firing these concentrations. At 1200 the 322d Field Artillery Battalion opened a new command post at P65377 and at 1615 the 908th Field Artillery Battalion opened a new one at P65351. Two tanks of the 771st Tank Battalion were knocked out during the attacks toward PETITE LAMILLIR and Southeast of OTTE (F65350). A total of 180 prisoners were taken during the day's operations.

12 January 1945

Just before the close of the previous period the Division launched a coordinated attack against LANGILIR (F65027) and PETITE LAMILLIR (F65237), and the forward elements had crossed their line of departure as the period began.

The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry was in position blocking to the North and East along a line P61623-P61728-P61728. Company C advanced to hold positions vicinity of road block at P61728 at 1030 and maintained that position during the balance of the period. The 2d Battalion, 339th Infantry, Companies E and G in advance, were attacking LANGILIR (F65027) from the West as the period opened. The two leading companies entered the town in the morning and mopping up operations continued. At 1400 the 2d Battalion, 339th Infantry relieved the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry in the Western end of town, and
after strengthening these positions, maintained defenses in LANLIR throughout the remainder of the day. The 3d Battalion, 33rd Infantry continued its attack against PETITE LANLIR (P65237), moving down from the North side of the town. Heavy fire from enemy machine guns and tanks was received from the cut vicinity P654857 but the battalion advanced slowly, and by 1330 was inside the town engaged in mopping-up operations. At close of period the battalion remained in the town.

Attacking from the North toward LANLIR (P650626), the 1st Battalion, 33rd Infantry advanced very slowly against stubborn infantry troops supported by enemy tanks and heavy artillery. At 1100 advance had reached the outskirts of the town where enemy fire was received from ten tanks vicinity P640820. The 1st Battalion was relieved at 1400 by the 2d Battalion, 33rd Infantry and soon thereafter attacked to the South toward its next objective at P647307. From the line P628339-P634622, held by the 2d Battalion, 33rd Infantry. Company F advanced against heavy fire from machine guns, self-propelled guns and extended the line to P637315. At 1500 the battalion launched an attack toward the Southeast, formed in a column of companies, and by the close of the period had advanced to P63824. The 3d Battalion, 33rd Infantry attacked PETITE LANLIR (P65237) at the beginning of the period and in the face of heavy resistance from machine guns, artillery and tank fires, succeeded in entering the town. Following mopping-up operations during the morning, the 3d Battalion reorganized and at 1400 attacked to the Southeast. By the close of the period the 3d Battalion had advanced to the line P654813-P656217.

Artillery units fired one hundred missions during the period on different targets called for by the forward observers with the advancing infantry units, as well as by the artillery air observers.

The 33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, attached to the 33rd Infantry, maintained flank security of the right flank of the regiment, and secured the cross roads at P630-

By the end of the period the Division was able to establish a bridgehead South of the LANLIR River and secure the town of LANLIR and PETITE LANLIR. In addition, routes were cleared to continue the attack further to the South and East. A total of 175 prisoners were taken during the day's operations.
13 January 1945

At the beginning of the period the Division held positions generally along the Eastern edge of the bridgehead established South of the BONCE River and continued the attack to the South to secure exits from the woods from which the 3d Armored Division might debouch.

The 3d Armored Division attacked through the positions held by the 53d Division generally from P664032-647904-653305 at 0800 and advanced South against very strong resistance.

Following the receipt of oral instructions by telephone, operations memorandum #35, VII Corps, dated 12 January 1945 (see Item 105, G-3 Journal, 13 January 1945) was received which ordered the Division to attack to the East and secure the high ground Northwest of DIVISION (P7032). Division Field Order #15 was issued as of 0900, 13 January 1945 (see Item 503, G-3 Journal, 13 January 1945), confirming oral instructions of the Commanding General.

The 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry continued to block the line P664032-667336-670336-670845 and to patrol the area to its front toward the East. Company I, 329th Infantry relieved Company A at 1530 and Company A assembled in the area West of the positions held by Company C vicinity of P666120. At the close of the period the 1st Battalion maintained defensive line P71283-673837. During the movement of Company F, 329th Infantry to the Southeast from LAMBLIR (P558320), at the start of the period, enemy was encountered. A fire fight resulted and fifty prisoners were taken. At 0500 Company F reached its objective vicinity P558114 and maintained it until 1230, when Company I, 331st Infantry completed relief at that point. Company F relieved the 2d Battalion, 329th Infantry in assembly area at LAMBLIR. The 3d Battalion, 329th Infantry remained in reserve in PETITE LAMBLIR (P568337). At 1530 Company I relieved Company A, 331st Infantry along the line, P670836-670845, and maintained the position until approximately 1830 when relieved by Company G, 329th Infantry. Company I then returned to PETITE LAMBLIR.

In the 331st Infantry sector the 1st Battalion continued the attack at the opening of the period, advancing South from LAMBLIR to reach a position vicinity P647210. Enemy tanks and infantry offered very heavy resistance. The progress was further slowed by the woods, darkness and the difficulty in bringing up supporting weapons. Company E was on the forward slope of the battalion objective at 0700. Positions were maintained by the battalion throughout the day under heavy enemy artillery fire. At 1230 the battalion moved to LAMBLIR (P558320) and remained there at the close of the period. The 2d Battalion, 331st Infantry was attacking in a column of companies at the close of the previous period, moving South from P653614, with Company E in the lead. Enemy infantry and tanks dug-in were encountered at P653514, but a slow advance continued and the head of the column was on the objective (P638835) at 0440. At 1300 a number of enemy tanks, which had been bypassed during the night advance, began to infiltrate among elements of Company B. Tanks from supporting units of the 774th Tank Battalion moved forward and engaged the enemy armor, knocking out one Mark V and losing one of our own tanks in the course of the action. Defensive positions were maintained by the battalion until 1530, at which time Company F moved to BRADFORD (P524840) and Companies E and G moved to OTTER (P658550). The battalion remained in this location at the close of the period. The 3d Battalion, 331st Infantry maintained defensive positions in the vicinity of the objective taken on the previous day (P658510). Heavy enemy artillery fire was received throughout the period. At 1700 the 3d Battalion began moving to the Northeast for relief of units of the 339th Infantry. At the close of the period the 3d Battalion held the line P658513-665813-665824.
14 January 1945

The 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry attacked at 1000 clearing the enemy in its advance to the East. Resistance was not heavy and consisted chiefly of small groups of enemy armed with automatic weapons protecting trail intersections. Progress was further slowed down because the weather and terrain prevented our use of light tanks. The high ground Northwest of BOIGNY (P703322), which constituted the objective of the 1st Battalion, was captured by Company B at 1630. Company C captured the town of Houailly (P703833) at 1730. Company D patrolled to the East as far as Boigny. Company A was assembled in the vicinity of F69835. The 2nd Battalion attacked at 1000 toward the East in its sector and met the same type of resistance that was encountered by the 1st Battalion. Company D, moving South, crossed the Langhir River at 1000, and at 1230 entered the town of Enotelle with Company B. The 3rd Battalion was in regimental reserve in the vicinity of Boigny throughout the period. The regimental command post moved to the new location vicinity of Enotelle at 1700.

In the sector of the 323rd Infantry, the 1st Battalion, attacking in a column of companies toward the East from Langhir, crossed the line of departure at 1000. Company A was in the lead. A strong point was encountered at F660820, and was knocked out after a fight in which twenty prisoners were captured and an undetermined number of enemy killed. The line F678713-688877-689822, which was the battalion objective, was occupied at approximately 1600, and the battalion patrolled East from those positions to the town of Courcelles (P7020). The 2nd Battalion was in regimental reserve vicinity Langhir. Also attacking to the East at 1000, the 3rd Battalion reached its objective at 1730. An enemy high-velocity gun unit (F66880) was forced to withdraw from its position after Company F encountered it from the South. Positions were held along the line F67803-685807-688821.

15 January 1945

At 2300 a fragmentary order confirming oral orders issued by the Commanding General during the day (see item 15b, 60-3 Journal, 16 January 1945) was issued by the Division, ordering units to maintain positions already held and to attack Enotelle 15 January. Division Order.

The 1st Battalion, 329th Infantry attacked Enotelle (P703322) at 1100, with Company A advancing on the town from the West, and Company D, from the East. Company B was moving out from the wood along a line F69820-691620. The enemy planed down Companies A and D along the edge of the woods, so they were unable to advance further. Company D reached the North edge of the town at 1300, received a strong counterattack accompanied by heavy machine gun, mortar, 88mm anti-aircraft and tank fire, and were forced to withdraw as far as the Eastern edge of the woods. After reorganizing at that point, Company B reoccupied its previous positions in Enotelle. Company D, 329th Infantry, then patrolled to the Northeast and by 1600 had reached its objective (P702814). Contact was made with elements of the 269th Infantry, 75th Infantry Division in the vicinity of Enotelle. At 1200 Company F moved into Enotelle and Company D remained in the town throughout the period. The 34th Battalion, constituting regimental reserve, disposed in an area at 0930 vicinity F581872.
The 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry maintained defensive positions throughout the day along the line P99811-689323. The 2nd Battalion was in regimental reserve and closed in an assembly area vicinity P984822 at 1500. The 3rd Battalion maintained defensive positions previously held and sent patrols to the East. The town of COURTEL (F7081) was occupied and strongly defended by the enemy. As the period closed the 3rd Battalion occupied positions along the line P89323-P89520 and maintained a road block at P89623. The regimental command post moved and opened a new location of LANGUR (F95153) at 1700.

Artillery units fired one hundred and twenty-five missions during the day on targets designated by advance infantry units and air observers. The Division Artillery command post moved and opened in new location OTRE (P8485) at 1430.

Four enemy machine guns were knocked out by Company D, 774th Tank Battalion attached to the 339th Infantry.

The Division Command Post moved to OTRE, opening at 1400.

16 January 1945

At 2300 the Division issued a fragmentary order (see item 215, G-3 Journal, 17 January 1945) confirming oral orders of the Commanding General, ordering units to hold present positions and to attack on 18 January to take high ground vicinity P70382. The Division held positions along the East edge of BOIS DE RANCE throughout the day. Three attempts by the enemy to launch counterattacks were repelled by effective use of our artillery.

The 1st Battalion, 339th Infantry remained in same positions with the exception of Company G, which side-slipped to the left and took up a position along the line P99831-695832. Company A was in assembly area vicinity P988833, and Company B remained in MONTEZ (F703831). The 2nd Battalion, less Company C, likewise remained in MONTEZ, Company C maintaining contact with the 289th Infantry, 75th Infantry Division at bridge (F70855). Company I moved from 3rd Battalion assembly area to occupy positions along a line P89811-690828, the other companies remained in regimental reserve vicinity P892832.

In the 331st Infantry sector, the 1st Battalion, less Company C, occupied a line P989811-689873; Company C was in position from P886805-688507. The 2nd Battalion moved from its assembly area at 0015 to occupy line P80702-683800. The 3rd Battalion strengthened its positions and remained generally along the same line as the previous day.

The 324th Field Artillery Battalion moved to a new position area vicinity P890339 at 1100. In addition to firing one hundred and twenty missions during the day, artillery units scored at least two direct hits on enemy tanks and forced a concentration of enemy armor to disperse into woods vicinity COURTEL (F700512). The 33rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop was attached to the 331st Infantry and patrolled the road between COURTEL and PONTAL (F702800), maintaining contact with the 5th Armored Division on their right. The 774th Tank Battalion destroyed two enemy vehicles. Engineer units maintained roads and cleared trails for infantry units operating in thickly wooded areas.
17 January 1945

The 3d Battalion, 51st Infantry, reduced an enemy strong point vicinity PB33501, later clearing the woods from that point South to the main road. At 1200 the 1st and 2d Battalions attacked against strong enemy resistance. Two hours later the enemy launched a counterattack with ten tanks and an infantry company, moving Southeast from PB93503. Three of the tanks were knocked out by an artillery TOT, and the infantry company was destroyed. The remainder of the tanks withdrew toward COURSEL (P700321). At the close of the period the 1st Battalion occupied positions along a line PB30703-5B6302, and the 2d Battalion, having secured its initial objective at 1800, maintained positions along the line PB33703-5B69703-5B6970b. At 1800 elements of the 2d Battalion, 51st Infantry captured a extensive enemy supply dump vicinity PB85703, but due to the exposed location and the likelihood of numerous booby traps, a complete inspection of it was not made. Contact was maintained by the 51st Infantry with the 3d Armored Division on the South flank, and the regiment established and held two road blocks at PB3799 and PB3850.

The 329th Infantry remained in place during the period, patrolling to the Southeast without meeting enemy resistance in the first two to four hundred yards. Company A relieved Company I at 0800. Company B moved out from vicinity of HONELLE to a position vicinity PB93203. Company C maintained contact with 239th Infantry, 75th Infantry Division on left flank at bridge at P701350. The 3d Battalion relieved the 1st Battalion, 51st Infantry at 0730. Road blocks were established by the 329th Infantry at PB91323, PB91523, PB90827, PB95925 and PB90515.

One-hundred and fifty missions were fired by artillery units of the Division and supporting battalions. Three enemy tanks were destroyed by TOT at the time of counterattack, and the concentration of enemy armor was fired upon again after the remaining tanks withdrew into COURSEL. The 639th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled) assisted in dispersing the vehicles assembled by the enemy for his counterattack, and during the period succeeded in reducing enemy strong points and neutralizing machine gun positions, hampering the infantry. Two enemy tanks and one half-track vehicle were also destroyed by tank destroyer fire, and numerous casualties were inflicted on the personnel of the crews.

18 January 1945

The 329th Infantry made no attack during the day. The 1st Battalion maintained its defensive positions and road blocks at the following points: PB90824, PB90327 and PB95015. The 2d Battalion maintained its defensive positions and road blocks at the following points: PB90324, PB90327 and PB95015. The 3d Battalion, 75th Infantry Division on the left, and strengthened its positions. The 3d Battalion sent patrols out from positions maintained on previous day East toward BOYUTRY (P704523) and COURSEL (P700621). Both towns were found to be occupied by enemy forces.

The 51st Infantry attacked and made slight gains. The 1st Battalion sent patrols to its front at 0700 and at 0800 launched an attack against light enemy resistance through snow-covered, wooded terrain. Three enemy tanks in the vicinity of P705797 laid heavy, direct fire on the battalion at about 1900. At the close of the period the battalion was holding along a line P703793-703797-701799-703700-703503-703602. At 0800 the 2d Battalion also attacked, Company C moving to the East to clear the wooded area, as far as the Division boundary, and Company B moving to the East to cover the right and the right flank of the sector in which the 1st Battalion was simultaneously attacking.
Light resistance was met during the period. The 2d Battalion was holding a line through P68073-P87773-P82738 at the close of the period. The 3d Battalion protected the sector of the 1st Battalion, remaining in its previous positions. In the woods occupied by the troops in the forward positions the drifted snow made trails impassable for trucks or tanks. Food and ammunition were taken forward on foot by carrying parties. The 33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop continued as an attachment of the 331st Infantry, and maintained contact with the 3d Armored Division on the right flank.

Eighty-eight missions were fired by artillery units in the course of the period, chiefly interdictory and harassing fire. Units of the 774th Tank Battalion helped the infantry units in flushing enemy personnel from positions in the EIS DE RONCE. Engineer units supporting the regiments worked on road maintenance and snow clearance, and kept open trails for communication with the 1st and 2d Battalions, 331st Infantry during their advance.

19 January 1945

The Division received Operations Zone 158, XIII Corps, dated 18 January 1945 (see Item 376, G-3 Journal, 19 January 1945), which stated the Division's mission as securing its present positions on the high ground North and West of EVIGNY (F7082), and the high ground South of COURTEL (F7061), in the Division zone. It was also directed that the 330th Infantry could be relieved from its attachment to the 3d Armored Division and would revert to control of the 33d Division at 0800, 19 January 1945.

In the sector of the 330th Infantry, the 1st Battalion maintained its positions, and patrolled from the East edge of EIS DE RONCE to EVIGNY (F7082). Company A closed into EVIGNY at 1000, and at the close of the period Companies B and C were along the line P68982-P695835. The 2d Battalion maintained its positions throughout the day. At 1700 Company B moved into RONY (F70833), except for one platoon which remained in vicinity of the contact point with 75th Infantry Division (F703849). Company F moved into LONCHAMP (F707824) at 1015. The 3d Battalion likewise maintained its positions during most of the period along the line F70162-G699620. Company L occupied the town of COURTEL (F706182) at 0000. At 1200 Company K, reinforced, began movement for attachment to the 331st Infantry.

The 330th Infantry reverted to Division control at 0800 by Corps order and began movement to assembly area in the vicinity of IXIER (K467008) and BAR HELLE-FERIERES (K467018), where the 2d Battalion and the Cannon Company closed at 1900.

After advancing to line alongside woods the 1st Battalion, 331st Infantry maintained positions along a line F704792-704798-704602 until 1500, when Company K, 329th Infantry, reinforced, relieved. The battalion thereafter moved to assembly area in LANEZ (P650257). Company C moved to F704792; with this exception the 2d and 3d Battalions maintained positions throughout the period.

Artillery units fired seventy-two missions of harassing and interdictory fire, and twenty-one other missions. The 33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop continued to maintain contact with the 3d Armored Division at P689793. The 308th Engineer Battalion prepared a road reconnaissance study which was distributed to the units of the Division. In addition, the various companies assisted the regiments in constructing command posts and in road clearance and maintenance, and in the recording of mine fields.
At the close of the period plans were in hand for issuing Field Order Number 46, giving the instructions necessary to move the Division into assigned assembly area in the rear of the Corps sector, as relieved (see Item 49, G-3 Journal, 20 January 1945). (Field Order 46 was issued 2300, 19 January, in confirmation of oral orders of the Commanding General).

20 January 1945

The 1st Battalion, 339th Infantry closed into ÉVIGNY (P703822) at 1600, and maintained positions and road blocks at P692931 and P692827. The 2d Battalion patrolled East to CERRAAUX (P713813) and at the close of the period one platoon occupied the town. Company E, minus one platoon, closed into ÉTOILLES (P703833) and occupied the town with Company G at the close of the period. The 3d Battalion, minus Company K, occupied COURIL (P700812) at the end of the period. Company K, reinforced, was relieved, moved to the vicinity of P683806, and was attached to the 331st Infantry. Road blocks were maintained by the 3d Battalion throughout the period at P692804, P687807 and P687817. The Intelligence and Reconnaissance Platoon patrolled to the East as far as CERRAAUX (P713843), and East of ÉVIGNY (P703822) contacting the enemy at P716826.

The 330th Infantry continued rehabilitation and training in its previous positions.

The 331st Infantry was relieved and moved to new areas during the day. The regimental command post opened at 1600 at P482951. The 1st Battalion crossed the Initial Point for its march at 1130 and closed into assembly area in AISNE (P455975) at 1430. The 2d Battalion was relieved by elements of the 335th Infantry and crossed its Initial Point at 1730. The battalion closed in vicinity DEUX-EPYS (P487958) at 2000. The 3d Battalion was also relieved by elements of the 335th Infantry and moved to assembly area vicinity FAINS (P505974) at 1800.

Artillery missions fired during the period totaled sixty-six. Company A, 774th Tank Battalion, attached to the 339th Infantry, held positions in preparation for defense of ÉVIGNY and ÉTOILLES. The 33d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, after moving into assembly area near XEVIGUSSE (K4006), reverted to Division control upon arrival. The engineer units worked on snow clearance and Company B, 306th Engineer Battalion removed tanks, our own and enemy, from road in vicinity of P700353.

21 January 1945

At 1200 the 339th Infantry, with its attachments, passed to control of the 54th Infantry Division in position.

The 1st Battalion, 330th Infantry moved to HEND (P454964), closing in at 1200. The remainder of the period was devoted to rehabilitation. The 3d Battalion moved into PHOT (K450052), closing in at 1030. The 2d Battalion made no change during the period.

The 331st Infantry remained in place and devoted the period to training and rehabilitation.

Forty-seven artillery missions were fired during the day. The 774th Tank Battalion, in Division Reserve opened new command post at 1545 at K383019. The 306th Engineer...
Battalion moved into new command post at K\textsuperscript{4}7603.

The Division was relieved of responsibility for its sector of the line at 1200 by elements of the 24th Infantry Division, and at that time the Division Command Post was closed at OTTRE (P\textsuperscript{5}5350) and opened at H\textsuperscript{4}3012 (K\textsuperscript{4}33055). A program of rehabilitation and training for the entire Division was inaugurated; the 330th and 331st Infantry Regiments started work on this program during the latter part of the day.

22 January 1945

The 329th Infantry reverted to Division control at 1445, and the regimental command post opened at 1345 at TOOOGN\textsuperscript{1}3 (K\textsuperscript{3}95003). The 330th Infantry conducted training in the firing of small arms, organization of units, close order drill and military courtesy. The 331st Infantry completed closing into new area. The 2d Battalion, minus Company E, closed in vicinity of OUERON\textsuperscript{1}3 (K\textsuperscript{3}79003) and Company E closed into HARRE (P\textsuperscript{5}52957), both at 1300. Division Artillery reverted to Division control at 1330, and opened new command post at MAZEF (P\textsuperscript{1}462133) at 1800. The 774th Tank Battalion moved into assembly area vicinity of LONGUEVILLE (K\textsuperscript{3}301), with Battalion Command Post at K\textsuperscript{3}83013. The 83th Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled) opened new command post at DEUX-R\textsuperscript{1}5 (K\textsuperscript{4}87958) at 1530.

At 1600 a fragmentary order was issued instructing units in provisions for area security (see Item 57, G-3 Journal, 22 January 1945).

23 January 1945

The Division continued to follow a program of training and rehabilitation. Clothing and equipment were inspected, and the regiments laid out ranges for firing small arms, training in village firing, and unit problems of various kinds. Operations Memo 155, VII Corps, dated 23 January, was received (see Item 73, G-3 Journal, 23 January 1945). No change was ordered in the mission of the Division, but the Memo confirmed the return to Division control of 83d Division Artillery as of 1330 on 22 January.
24 through 31 January 1945

During this period the units of the Division continued training and general rehabilitation of troops. Emphasis was placed on having troops, especially all reinforcements, fire their basic weapon plus one alternate weapon, and, under varied conditions, simulate actual combat; marching, fire, village and woods fighting, the use of captured weapons, etc.

One change in location of units occurred when the 53d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop moved from XHINESSE to CONTAIN-THEON (244297b) on 25 January 1945. At 2400, 25 January Companies B and C, 377th Chemical Battalion were detached from the Division; and at 0600, 30 January the 623rd Tank Destroyer Battalion (self-propelled) was detached from the Division.